

**Leonard R. Beard**

841 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Crowley, La. 70526  
(337) 781-2317

January 28, 2002

Renata Heese  
Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division  
Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200  
Washington DC 20530  
FAX: 202-616-9937

RE: Settlement of U.S. v. Microsoft

Nearly 30 million dollars in taxpayer funds have been spent on this case. The time and expense of this case combined with the uncertainty it has led to in the technology sector leads me to believe that now is time that we settle this case.

I do appreciate the government's efforts in protecting consumers. The settlement is appropriate in scope because it addresses only those items upheld by the courts and it provides for close monitoring of future Microsoft operations.

Let's get the technology companies back to competing, which will help consumers and our economy. Thanks for considering my views on this matter.

Sincerely,



Leonard Beard